

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 158924  
ORIGIN EA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 AS-01 IO-06 NSC-05 NSCE-00  
PM-03 SP-02 L-01 INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 ACDA-10  
/055 R

DRAFTED BY EA:EHURWITZ:RTB  
APPROVED BY EA:WHGLESTEEN  
IO:CWMAYNES

-----115426 090328Z /65

R 081833Z JUL 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 158924

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, KN, KS

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF TWO KOREAS

REF: MEXICO 10666

1. WE ADVOCATE RECIPROCAL IMPROVEMENT OF COMMUNIST/NON-COMMUNIST RELATIONS WITH SEOUL/PYONGYANG RESPECTIVELY, BUT WE BELIEVE THAT AMBASSADOR HARRY'S PROPOSAL (REFTEL) WOULD NOT BRING ABOUT THE RESULT WE SEEK. UNLESS AUSTRALIANS HAVE INFORMATION SUGGESTING LIKELIHOOD OF CHANGE IN PEKING'S AND MOSCOW'S ADAMANT OPPOSITION TO ANY KIND OF DEALINGS WITH THE ROKG OR OF CHANGE IN KEY THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES' POSITION (DEVELOPMENTS WE JUDGE UNLIKELY), THE PRACTICAL EFFECT OF HARRY'S SUGGESTION WOULD SEEM TO BE INCREASED  
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REPRESENTATION IN PYONGYANG WITHOUT ANY COMMENSURATE BENEFIT IN SEOUL. WE KNOW, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT A SHIFT IN OUR POSITION WOULD SPUR THE UK AND SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES ALREADY REPRESENTED IN THE SOUTH TO PROCEED TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH THE NORTH. SUCH A DEVELOPMENT, ESPECIALLY IF IT OCCURRED AT OUR INITIATIVE, WOULD HAVE A DEEPLY UNSETTLING EFFECT IN SOUTH KOREA.

2. OUR CURRENT INFORMATION ON CHINESE AND SOVIET ATTITUDES INDICATES NO FLEXIBILITY IN THEIR POSITION AGAINST ANY

DEALINGS WITH THE ROKG -- REFLECTING NORTH KOREA'S CONTINUING HARD LINE OF OPPOSING ANY "TWO KOREAS" ARRANGEMENTS. WE DO NOT KNOW OF POTENTIAL SHIFTS IN KEY THIRD WORLD PARTIES. THUS WHILE PYONGYANG WOULD BE HAPPY TO REAP THE BENEFIT OF IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH COUNTRIES WHICH NOW MAINTAIN DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH SEOUL, WE ARE QUITE CERTAIN IT WOULD NOT PERMIT ITS ALLIES TO RECIPROCATE. NOR DO WE BELIEVE MORE EMBASSIES IN PYONGYANG WITHOUT COMPENSATING INCREASE IN SEOUL WOULD ENHANCE THE PROSPECT OF GETTING BOTH KOREAS INTO THE UN.

3. YOU SHOULD DISCUSS THE ISSUE WITH HARRY ALONG ABOVE LINES.

VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE158924  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** EHURWITZ:RTB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Subject:** RECOGNITION OF TWO KOREAS  
**TAGS:** PARM, KN, KS, US  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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